

1 Marc J. Randazza, NV Bar No. 12265  
2 Ronald D. Green, NV Bar No. 7360  
3 Alex J. Shepard, NV Bar No. 13582  
4 RANDAZZA LEGAL GROUP, PLLC  
5 2764 Lake Sahara Drive, Suite 109  
6 Las Vegas, Nevada 89117  
7 Telephone: 702-420-2001  
8 Email: ecf@randazza.com

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10 Attorneys for Defendants  
11 Mitchell Taylor Button and Dusty Button

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13  
14 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
15 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

16 SAGE HUMPHRIES, GINA MENICHINO,  
17 ROSEMARIE DeANGELO, DANIELLE  
18 GUTIERREZ, and JANE DOE 100, JULIET  
19 DOHERTY, and JANE DOE 200

20 Case No. 2:21-cv-01412-ART-EJY

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22  
23 **MOTION TO STRIKE**  
24 **PURSUANT TO FED. R. CIV. P. 12(f)**

25 Plaintiffs/  
26 Counterclaim Defendants,

27 v.

28 MITCHELL TAYLOR BUTTON and  
29 DUSTY BUTTON

30 Defendants/  
31 Counterclaim Plaintiffs /  
32 Third Party Plaintiffs,

33 v.

34 MICHAEL S. HUMPHRIES, MICAH L.  
35 HUMPHRIES, ANTHONY GIOVANNI  
36 DEANE, DARYL ALLAN KATZ, and  
37 CHASE FINLAY,

38 Third Party Defendants.

39  
40 Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(f), Defendants / Counterclaim Plaintiffs / Third Party  
41 Plaintiffs Mitchell Taylor Button and Dusty Button respectfully move this Court to strike the  
42 below-referenced portions of their own Verified Third Party Complaint and Counterclaim (ECF  
43 No. 54). It is highly unusual for a party to move to strike portions of its own pleadings. However,

1 information recently provided to them has called into questions a sole allegation in their Third  
2 Party Complaint – specifically, the age of Plaintiff Sage Humphries and allegations related thereto.  
3 Plaintiffs request that the Court strike the following statements:

- 4 • Pg. 3, line 18: “while Sage was underage.”
- 5 • Pg. 3, lines 19-20: “while she remained underage.”
- 6 • Pg. 3, line 20: “child”
- 7 • Pg. 3, line 23: “then-underage”
- 8 • Page 10, line 5: “At age 17,”
- 9 • Page 10, line 9: “when she was 17 years old”
- 10 • Page 10, line 11: “while she was still underage”
- 11 • Page 18, line 6: “while she was a minor”
- 12 • Page 18, line 8: “while she was a minor”
- 13 • Page 18, line 10: “while she was a minor”
- 14 • Page 18, lines 24-25: “Given that these Third Party Defendants committed statutory  
15 rape and in at least Katz’ case, sex trafficking,”

16 A redacted copy of the Buttons’ Third Party Complaint is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** with  
17 these statements removed.

18 Defendants Mitchell and Dusty Button take their responsibility to this Court seriously, as  
19 does their counsel. The Buttons and their counsel conducted extensive (not just diligent) research  
20 to verify the claims that Plaintiff Sage Humphries was underage during the course of events  
21 alleged.<sup>1</sup> To that end, however, Sage Humphries appears to have lied to the Buttons, and other  
22 parties, about her age.

23 Prior to levying the allegations, Plaintiffs undertook exhaustive independent research to  
24 verify Sage’s age. This included reviewing a LexisNexis report for Sage, which said she was born

25 <sup>1</sup> The Buttons’ Third Party Complaint was verified as true and correct “to the best of [their]  
26 knowledge and understanding.” While this was true at the time the Third Party Complaint was  
27 signed and filed, the Buttons’ request to strike the statements as made herein brings the Third Party  
Complaint back in line with their current knowledge and understanding.

1 in October 1998, which would have made Sage 17 at the relevant time. *See Exhibit 2*, redacted  
2 LexisNexis report. LexisNexis is certainly a reliable source of information, and there would be no  
3 reason to question it. Additional sources online likewise reported that Sage's date of birth occurred  
4 in 1998, rather than 1997, suggesting that Sage had misrepresented her age to more people than  
5 just the Buttons. *See, e.g., Exhibit 3*, Wikipedia page. Of course, nobody should consider  
6 Wikipedia to be a conclusive source – but when the Wikipedia entry has been online for over a  
7 year, presumably Ms. Humphries or a member of her public relations team would correct it for  
8 accuracy. Sage Humphries' Wikipedia page represented her year of birth as 1998 from July 2021  
9 until August 1, 2022, when it was edited by an anonymous, unregistered editor, to state that she  
10 was born on October 3, 1997. A Google search for Ms. Humphries' name also showed her year of  
11 birth as 1998. **Exhibit 4**, Google Search Results. There are many other sources online that also  
12 support the conclusion that she was born in 1998 and not 1997, but these sources were not reviewed  
13 prior to the filing of the relevant allegations.

14 Since filing their Third Party Complaint, the Buttons have been presented with reliable  
15 evidence disputing their previous understanding of Sage's true age. The allegations about her being  
16 born in 1998 were presented in good faith, as they were consistent with (1) Sage's own statements  
17 to the Buttons, (2) the Buttons' general understanding of her age, (3) confirmation by review of  
18 publicly available information, (4) re-confirmation by the LexisNexis database. Nevertheless,  
19 having been presented with reliable information to the contrary, the undersigned has a duty as an  
20 officer of the court (and as a matter of fundamental fairness and decency) to strike these allegations  
21 in light of new information that has come to light. It is simply unfair to accuse Mr. Katz, Mr.  
22 Deane, and Mr. Finlay of having been involved with Sage Humphries when she was 17 years old  
23 if there is any reliable evidence to the contrary. Certainly, this could have been left as factual  
24 dispute for the finder of fact to resolve. However, having been provided with contradictory  
25 information (not from Sage Humphries, but from another party) neither the Defendants nor their  
26 counsel can in good faith allow it to be said nor implied that Mr. Katz, Mr. Deane, or Mr. Finlay  
27

1 committed statutory rape. It is worth noting that had Sage Humphries not been dishonest about her  
2 year of birth in the first place, this misunderstanding could not have been possible.<sup>3</sup>

3 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(f) allows a court to strike from a pleading any  
4 redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous matter. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(f).* Claims that  
5 Sage Humphries was born in 1998 rather than 1997 rise to the level of “scandalous” and  
6 “immaterial.” Although it is uncommon for a party to seek to strike a matter from their own  
7 pleading, the Rules do not prohibit this action. Accordingly, and in the interest of fairness to all  
8 parties in this action, the Buttons respectfully move this Court to strike the portions of their Third  
9 Party Complaint identified herein, to seal the un-stricken version, and to replace it with the version  
10 that redacts allegations based on Sage Humphries being born in 1998 versus her apparent true year  
11 of birth, 1997. This is requested as a matter of fundamental fairness to parties in this case, and  
12 perhaps unnamed third parties who could also be negatively affected by reports pertaining to Sage  
13 Humphries’ birth year as being 1998, rather than 1997.

14  
15 Dated: August 3, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

16 /s/ Marc J. Randazza  
17 Marc J. Randazza, NV Bar No. 12265  
18 Ronald D. Green, NV Bar No. 7360  
19 Alex J. Shepard, NV Bar No. 13582  
20 RANDAZZA LEGAL GROUP, PLLC  
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22 Las Vegas, Nevada 89117  
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25 Mitchell Taylor Button and Dusty Button

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27 <sup>3</sup> It is worth noting that the information correcting Sage Humphries’ year of birth from 1998  
to 1997 was not provided by her nor her counsel. It is unclear why they never reached out to  
provide this information, nor why they did not even deny it. Ms. Humphries knows her true year  
of birth, yet she seems to have permitted this falsehood to remain on the docket and in the press,  
without the slightest protest.

1 Case No. 2:21-cv-01412-APG-VCF

2 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

3 I HEREBY CERTIFY that on August 3, 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing document  
4 with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF. I further certify that a true and correct copy of the  
5 foregoing document being served via transmission of Notices of Electronic Filing generated by  
6 CM/ECF.

7 /s/ Marc J. Randazza

8 Employee,  
9 Randazza Legal Group, PLLC

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